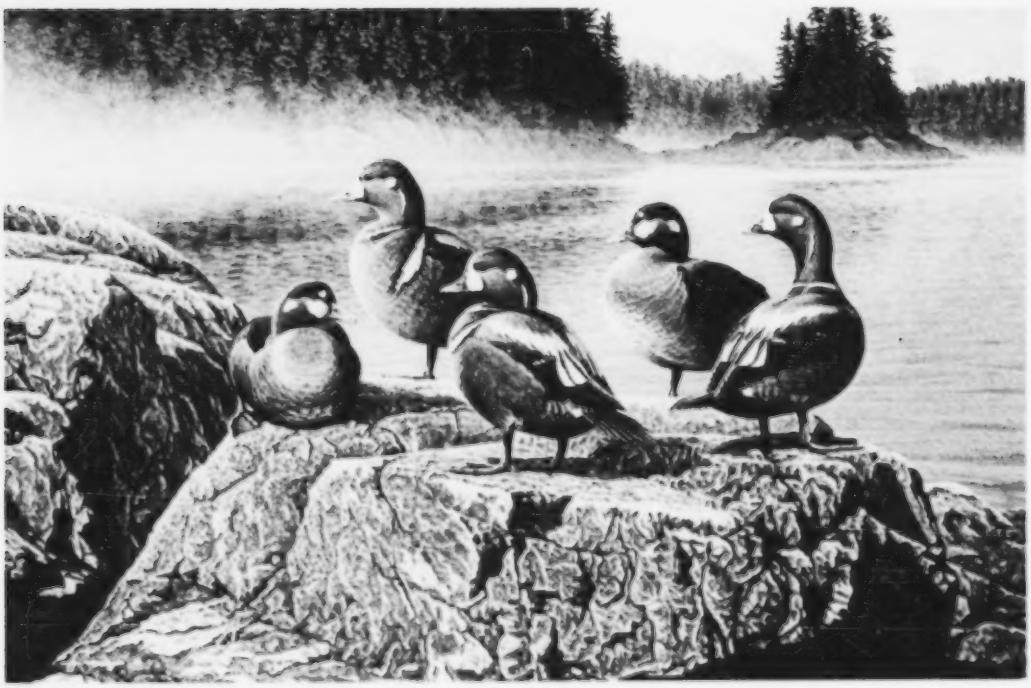
Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations

December 2005

Canadian Wildlife Service
Waterfowl Committee

CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 17



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National CWS Web site: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca

Regional CWS Web sites:
Atlantic Region: www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html
Québec Region: www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html
Ontario Region: www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife_e.html
Prairie and Northern Region: www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/index.en.html
Pacific and Yukon Region: www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/EN/Wildlife/index.shtml

HELPFUL TIP:
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when bird-watching, hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html (English)
http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index_f.html (French)

Cover Art:

The 2005 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp entitled "Wintering West – Harlequin Ducks" is by Canadian wildlife artist W. Allan Hancock of British Columbia.

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For more information on Wildlife Habitat Canada, the conservation stamp and print program, please call Wildlife Habitat Canada at (613) 722-2090 (in the Ottawa region) or toll free at 1-800-669-7919. You can also obtain this information from Wildlife Habitat Canada's website at www.whc.org.

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Editors:

This report was prepared by the Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee, and edited by Judith Kennedy, Kathryn Dickson and Hélène Lévesque (CWS, National Office).

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Comments:

Comments regarding this report, the regulation-setting process or other items relating to national migratory game bird concerns should be sent to:

Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H3.

Region-specific comments should be sent to the appropriate Regional Director, Canadian Wildlife Service, at the following addresses:

Atlantic Region: 17 Waterfowl Lane, P.O. Box 6227, Sackville, NB, E4L 1G6
Québec Region: 1141 route de l'Église, P.O. Box 10100, Sainte-Foy, QC, G1V 4H5
Ontario Region: 4905 Dufferin Street, Downsview, ON, M3H 5T4.
Prairie & Northern Region: Twin Atria No.2, 4999-98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T6B 2X3
Pacific & Yukon Region: 5421 Robertson Road, R.R. #1, Delta, BC, V4K 3N2

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Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H3
cws-scf@ec.gc.ca
http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca

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Background

Canadian hunting regulations for migratory game birds are reviewed annually by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories and a range of other interested stakeholders. As part of this process, the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) produces three reports each year. The November report *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada* contains population and other biological information on migratory game birds, and thus provides the scientific basis for management. The December report *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations* outlines the proposed changes to the annual hunting regulations, as well as other proposed amendments to the *Migratory Birds Regulations*. Proposals for hunting regulations are developed in accordance with the *Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting* (Appendix B). These two reports are distributed to organizations and individuals with an interest in migratory game bird conservation, to provide an opportunity for input to the development of hunting regulations in this country. The third report, *Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations in Canada*, issued in July, summarizes the hunting regulations for the upcoming hunting season.

The process for development of regulations in Canada requires that any changes be in the form of final proposals by early March of each year. That means that regulations must be set without the benefit of knowledge about the breeding conditions and production forecasts of the coming year. This does not usually present difficulties because the hunting regulations are based on trends over several years, but in some cases the results from recent harvest surveys or breeding population surveys conducted in May and June will indicate that changes in the national approach are needed to ensure conservation of migratory game birds. **In this case, the Canadian Wildlife Service will issue a bulletin updating these regulations.**

Annual Schedule for the Development of Hunting Regulations

The annual schedule is based on the requirement to have the annual hunting regulations made into law by early June of each year:

- Early November – The November report, containing biological information, is distributed by CWS-National Office (N.O.).
- November and December – Jurisdictions develop proposals for hunting regulations in coordination with CWS Regional Directors.
- December 13 – CWS Regions provide to CWS-N.O. the proposed changes to hunting regulations (with justifications) for the upcoming year, as well as any other information that should be included in the December report, including advance notice on items for future years. Descriptions of zone changes are sent by CWS Regions to the Surveyor General for review, approval and translation.
- Early January – CWS-N.O. distributes the December report containing the regulation proposals, to allow for public, inter-regional and international consultation.
- February 21 – Replies from consultation are due at CWS Regional Directors' offices, who then ensure distribution to the provinces and territories.
- Mid-January through mid-February – CWS Regions work with the provinces and territories to finalize the regulation proposals.
- March 10 – Final proposals, as well as the final text of the regulations and regulation summaries, are sent by CWS Regional Directors to CWS-N.O.
- April through May – CWS-N.O. undertakes the process to prepare legal documents and obtain approvals of the regulatory proposals.
- Early June – Final hunting regulations, adjusted if necessary to account for public comment, become law.
- July 15 – Hunting regulation summaries are available at Canada Post Outlets.
- End of July – CWS-N.O. finalizes the July report containing the final proposals for hunting regulations and the hunting regulation summaries.
- End of August – Regulation consolidations are available to CWS Regions.

Note to United States Readers

The annual cycle of regulation development in Canada is earlier than that in the United States. To meet the requirements of the Canadian regulatory process, proposals for hunting regulations must be finalized no later than late February each year. Canadian representatives at the summer Flyway Council meetings and other hearings are not

reporting on what is being considered, but on what has been passed into law.

Black Duck Harvest Strategy

Progress on the development of an international Black Duck harvest strategy that uses the principles of Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) has been published in previous issues of the CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports. In fall 2004, the USFWS and the Canadian Wildlife Service agreed to work towards finalizing an adaptive harvest management approach for determining appropriate levels of harvest for Black Ducks in Canada and the U.S. This approach will be based on breeding ground survey information. Initially, models were based on wintering ground surveys, so some technical adjustments need to be made before the models based on breeding ground information can be used. We are now updating these models with the breeding pair information and expect to make significant progress towards implementation of an AHM approach for Black Ducks in the coming year.

The Black Duck Harvest Strategy Working Group will keep the appropriate regulatory consultation bodies in Canada and United Sates informed of progress as we move toward implementation of adaptive harvest management for Black Ducks. These bodies will also be informed if alternative strategic frameworks for Black Duck hunting regulations come under consideration.

More details on the adaptive management study can be found on the following Web site: http://coopunit.forestry.uga.edu/blackduck/

Management of Overabundant Snow Geese

Issue

The rapid growth of most Snow Goose populations is of great concern. Assessments of the environmental effects of the rapidly growing populations of Mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese and of Greater Snow Geese were completed by working groups of Canadian and American scientists. Their analyses are contained in the comprehensive reports entitled "*Arctic Ecosystems in Peril – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group*" (Batt 1997) and "*The Greater Snow Goose – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group*" (Batt 1998). The working groups concluded that the primary causes of the increase of Snow Goose populations were human induced. Improved nutrition from agricultural practices and safety in refuges has resulted in increased survival and reproductive rates of Snow Geese. These populations have become so large that they are affecting the vegetation communities on which they and other species rely at staging areas and on the breeding grounds. Grazing and grubbing by geese not only permanently removes vegetation, but also changes soil salinity, nitrogen dynamics and moisture levels. The result is the alteration or elimination of the plant communities, which in all likelihood will not be restored. Although the Arctic is vast, the areas that support breeding geese and other companion species are limited in extent and some areas are likely to become inhospitable for decades. Increasing crop damage is also an important consequence of the growing Snow Goose populations.

Regulation

Several management actions are being undertaken concurrently to curtail the rapid population growth and reduce population size to a level consistent with the carrying capacity of the habitat. One action involves increasing the mortality rate of Snow Geese by two to three times the rate achieved prior to the introduction of habitat conservation measures. Beginning in 1999 an amendment to the Migratory Birds Regulations created special conservation measures during which hunters were encouraged to take overabundant species for conservation reasons and, in some cases and subject to specific controls, to use special methods and equipment such as electronic calls and bait. The 1999 and 2000 regulations applied in selected areas of Québec and Manitoba. Beginning in spring 2001, special conservation measures were also implemented in Saskatchewan and Nunavut. The dates and locations where special conservation measures were implemented were determined through consultation with the provincial governments, other organizations and local communities.

Evaluation

Evaluation plans are being implemented to track progress toward the goals of reduced population growth and, ultimately, recovery by plant communities. For example, across the Arctic since 1997, over 230,000 Lesser Snow and Ross's geese have been banded as part of a program to monitor survival rates and harvest characteristics (D. Caswell, CWS, pers. comm.).

The special conservation measures appear to have been successful in increasing harvest rates for Greater Snow geese. The estimated harvest

rates of adults (based on regular-season harvest in Canada and the U.S., and including the special conservation seasons which are in effect in Canada only) ranged from 10 to 15% in each year since 1998/9. These are much higher than the rates achieved during 1985-1997 (average harvest rate of 6%), a period of rapid population growth, and similar to harvest rates during 1975-1984 (averaging 11%) when the population was relatively small and stable (G. Gauthier, Laval University, unpubl.). In addition, spring counts of staging birds in the St. Lawrence River Valley suggest that the population has now stabilised at between 800 000 and 1 million birds. Despite the success of the special conservation measures in achieving this stabilisation, the conditions that led to overabundance continue to prevail today. A model of the current population dynamics under various harvest scenarios suggests that, without the spring harvest, the growth rate of the population would once again increase, leading to a growing population.

For Lesser Snow Geese, the continental harvest has increased since hunting regulations were liberalized beginning in 1999, but as yet there is no conclusion about the effect on population growth rate. A team of scientists has begun an evaluation of the results achieved so far.

The analyses indicate that while progress is being made to control the growth of snow goose populations, it is apparent that continued use of special measures is necessary.

Proposal for 2006

For 2006, we propose that the special measures be maintained in Québec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut. Minor adjustments to the season dates are proposed for Quebec, where it is also proposed to modify the wording regarding the use of decoys representing white phase snow geese, as well as the use of hunting equipment allowed on farmlands.

These proposals were described in the November 2005 Report on the Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada. In addition, they were published in the Canada Gazette, Part I, on 24 December 2005. The 30-day period for public comment will end on 23 January 2006. See Appendix A for the proposed changes.

Proposed Changes to Hunting Regulations for the 2006-2007 Season

CWS and the provinces and territories have jointly developed the regulatory proposals presented here. Other proposals consistent with these may be sent to the appropriate CWS Regional Director by any interested organization or individual. To facilitate the comparison of changes proposed in this text with current regulations, the summaries of the 2005 *Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations* are included in Appendix C.

Newfoundland and Labrador

Inland Waterfowl

Hunter participation in Newfoundland and Labrador has declined, and there has been a concomitant decline in the inland duck harvest from about 67,000 ducks in 1990 to about 33,500 ducks in 2004. We therefore propose to extend the inland waterfowl season for all ducks, except Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks, eiders and scoters, and the season for geese and snipe, for all inland and coastal zones on the island of Newfoundland to the last Saturday of December. This change will afford more hunting opportunity, especially for mergansers, with only a slight increase (<2,000 ducks) in the harvest of Black Ducks, Common Goldeneye, Ring-necked Ducks and mergansers.

Harvest and population trends would be monitored through the CWS National Harvest Survey and the Eastern Waterfowl Breeding Ground Survey, respectively, to ensure any increases in harvest are sustainable.

Sea Ducks

Harvest restrictions were first introduced in 1997 to address a decline of northern Common Eiders over-wintering in Newfoundland, and to protect the relatively small number of American Eiders that breed in insular Newfoundland. Since then, significant resources have been directed towards assessing the status of Eider ducks in the north-west Atlantic. Results suggest that the population of northern Common Eider that over-winters in eastern North America is stable to increasing, and more abundant than previous assessments suggested. American Common Eiders that breed along the north coast of Newfoundland have shown strong growth, while numbers breeding along the north-east and south coasts of Newfoundland remain small.

In 2004, we proposed that the February bag restriction on eiders implemented in 1997 be removed and the inclusive daily bag and possession limit of 6 and 12 sea ducks respectively (eiders, Long-tailed Ducks and scoters) be reinstated. Demographic models had

suggested that increased harvest level expected from this change would not negatively impact populations. However, due to the heavy sea ice conditions that prevailed in winter 2005, and high mortality of eiders due to illegal discharge of oil, the proposal was withdrawn until the status of eiders wintering in Newfoundland could be reassessed.

In February 2006, the Canadian Wildlife Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service will attempt to survey wintering eiders in eastern North America. If the number of eiders found in Newfoundland is similar to that in the 2003 survey, we propose that the 1997 restrictions be removed and the 2004 proposal outlined above be implemented.

Harvest would be monitored through the CWS National Harvest Survey. The number of wintering eiders will be monitored at regular intervals and monitoring of local breeding numbers will continue.

Prince Edward Island

No changes are proposed except minor date adjustments to avoid Sunday openings or closings. Waterfowler Heritage Day is proposed for 16 September.

Nova Scotia

No changes are proposed except minor date adjustments to avoid Sunday openings or closings. Waterfowler Heritage Day is proposed for 23 September.

New Brunswick

No changes are proposed except minor date adjustments to avoid Sunday openings or closings. Waterfowler Heritage Day is proposed for 16 September.

Quebec

Canada goose

We propose to modify the early Canada Goose season in District C, D and E. Hunting would be authorized on farmlands only, starting September 1, and running until the opening of the general waterfowl hunting season, which occurs on the third Saturday of September. In order to respect the 107 hunting days limit set by the law, the hunting season will end on December 16. Moving these 6 days of hunting will have no impact on the Canada Goose hunt because there is almost no hunting activity in these regions in December.

No-hunting zones

The Canadian Wildlife Service will continue to review the status of certain no-hunting zones in Québec. At the time of initial designation, the zones were intended to provide waterfowl with a resting area, to protect certain species or to consolidate the protection of some areas. However, changes in the number of hunters, the status of certain populations which have now become more abundant, as well as the multitude of municipal regulations limiting the use of firearms, have led CWS to review their status. We propose abolishing the no-hunting zone of Beauharnois Channel.

It is also proposed that the Cap Tourmente no-hunting zone be altered. Currently, the boundary is fixed by the Mile 40 marker on the railway. The area of the no-hunting zone would be reduced with its eastern boundary now at Cap Brulé.

Waterfowler Heritage Day

For several years, the Magdalene Islands waterfowlers association has been unhappy with this event. The association stresses that waterfowl hunting is the only type of hunting practiced on the islands. Given their isolation, the association believes that Waterfowler Heritage Day causes the early departure of birds and provokes conflict for hunting areas between hunters and the participating youths. Elsewhere, Waterfowler Heritage Day is held prior to the opening of the season. CWS would like to continue the event in the Magdalene Islands, but is prepared to consider other proposals. Please send any proposals regarding this issue to CWS, Québec Region.

Ontario

Canada Goose

Regulations in Ontario seek to maintain a high level of harvest of the rapidly expanding temperate-breeding population of Canada Geese while limiting the harvest of northern-breeding populations, in particular the Southern James Bay Population (SJBP) whose numbers are presently at low but stable levels.

In the case of temperate-breeding Canada Geese, harvest has been increased through the implementation of special seasons with higher bag limits before and after the regular waterfowl hunting season. We regularly re-evaluate and

refine the Canada Goose hunting regulations to meet the above mentioned objectives..

Norfolk County

Norfolk County land managers and the municipal council have recently expressed concern about the increasing population of temperate-breeding Canada geese in their jurisdiction. The township of South Walsingham in Norfolk County has more restrictive hunting regulations for Canada geese than most other areas in southern Ontario. In particular, there are currently no special seasons for Canada geese in September or February. These exceptions were created due to a high level of non-hunting recreational activity in the Long Point area in September and a concern by some hunters in South Walsingham that significant numbers of returning locally breeding geese may be shot in February, just before the breeding season, thus reducing hunting potential in the fall. However, despite the fact that virtually all other areas have had special February seasons for several years, the temperate-breeding Canada goose population continues to grow throughout southern Ontario.

We propose the following changes for Norfolk County:

1) To limit the area with no special September season to that portion of South Walsingham Township lying south of County Road 42.
2) To add a late special season in South Walsingham Township from February 21 to 28 with daily bag/possession limits of 8/24.

Wildlife Management Unit 94

Restrictive regulations to protect Southern James Bay Population Canada geese have been in place in WMU 94 since 1991. The regulations were made even more restrictive beginning in 1994, then relaxed somewhat from 2002-2005, all with little apparent effect on the size of the SJBP. Among other restrictions, there has been no open season for Canada geese in October since 1994.

The surrounding WMUs (92 and 93) have full 107-day hunting seasons with more liberal daily bag and possession limits. Seasons in these WMUs include early and late special Canada Goose seasons and a regular season from late September to early January. The long-term goal of CWS is to restore a full regular hunting season in WMU 94 in order to provide equal hunting opportunity and to limit growth of the temperate-breeding Canada goose population in that area. However, with no recent harvest or band recovery data for October in WMU 94, it is impossible to accurately estimate the impact of restoring hunting days. Therefore, for 2006-2007 we propose an experimental shifting of hunting days from November to late September and October in order to obtain current harvest data for that period. There will be no increase in the total number of hunting days or bag limits so this would not constitute a liberalisation of the regulations.

It is proposed to institute a split season for Wildlife Management Unit 94 as follows :

1) That the regular Canada goose season in Wildlife Management Unit 94 first open on September 23 and close on October 21 (25 days) with a daily bag/possession limit of 2/4.
2) That the regular Canada goose season in Wildlife Management Unit 94 re-open on November 29 and close on January 4 (32 days) with a daily bag/possession limit of 2/4.

Sunday Hunting in Southern District

In 2005, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources sought approval from municipalities to re-institute Sunday gun-hunting in that part of Ontario south of the French and Mattawa rivers. Since 1998, Sunday hunting of migratory birds in some areas of the Southern District already closed for provincial species was prohibited by Federal regulations in order to use compensatory days for those Sundays to apply to special hunting seasons for Canada Geese whose numbers, and the associated damage and nuisance issues, have been increasing exponentially. Support for re-instituting Sunday hunting was obtained from 68 new municipalities (or about 33% of the municipalities) in that region. Given this level of support and the positive results of the Provincial public consultation process, the OMNR has decided to proceed with implementation. However, because the distribution of municipalities approving Sunday hunting is somewhat scattered, the CWS does not consider that a blanket authorization of Sunday hunting throughout the Southern District would be desirable. Losing the use of these compensatory days in areas that still would not allow Sunday hunting under Provincial legislation would lead to a net decrease in opportunities for Canada Goose hunting.

Although less than half of the overall number of municipalities in southern Ontario approved Sunday hunting, in eastern Ontario (WMU 60 to 72) the majority of municipalities did give their approval. By allowing Sunday hunting in these WMUs, it is expected that the increased harvest of Canada geese on Sundays during the regular season would more than compensate for the compensatory days lost in those municipalities that still do not allow Sunday hunting. Most of this area

presently has the same hunting regulation regime for Canada Geese, and it is proposed that all municipalities that presently allow Sunday hunting are included.

It is proposed that :

1) Sunday hunting for migratory birds no longer be prohibited under Federal regulations in Provincial Wildlife Management Units 60 to 72. The Federal prohibition on Sunday hunting of migratory birds would remain in effect in areas further to the west (WMU 73 to 95). In order to accommodate the extra days of hunting during the regular season, late special seasons for Canada geese would be discontinued in eastern Ontario and the length of the regular hunting season would be adjusted so as not to exceed the maximum number of days allowed under the MBCA. There are no implications for SJBP Canada geese since these changes would not apply to southwestern Ontario where this population is mainly present.
2) In order to harmonize regulations in all areas that will have Sunday hunting as of the 2006-2007 season, the early September goose season in WMU 72 would be adjusted to be the same as that in WMU 60 to 71.

Manitoba

Canada Goose (Eastern Prairie Population)

The Eastern Prairie Population benefited from an early nesting season and increased production in 2005, with the result that the population is close to the objective established by the International Management Plan for EPP geese. This positive change in the status of the EPP population enables Manitoba to reintroduce the traditional bag limit for non-resident alien hunters in 2006. These hunters had been restricted in 2005 due to requirements prescribed by the EPP Management Plan of the Mississippi Flyway following the 2004 "bust" in production of EPP Canada geese in the Hudson Bay Lowlands region. Key harvest areas for EPP geese in Manitoba are Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) 25B, 25A and 25, which combined account for >70% of all EPP recoveries in Manitoba. Of this harvest, non-resident non-Canadian (NRNC) hunters account for more than 50% of the harvest of EPP geese in the Interlake region. GHA 25B is allocated a lower bag limit because of the significance of the area to staging EPP geese and the consequent attraction for non-resident non-Canadian hunters.

Proposed changes to the Canada Goose season in 2006-2007 include:

1) Non Resident of Canada (NRNC)
   a) Allow a bag limit of 5 CAGO/day in GHAs 25 & 25A, with 15 in possession.
   b) Allow a bag limit of 4 CAGO/day in GHA 25B, and 12 in possession.

Saskatchewan

Greater White-fronted Goose

Mid-continent white-fronted geese are managed through a multi-flyway (Central, Mississippi and Pacific) management plan, revised in 2005. This management plan constitutes an agreement among the states, provinces and territories where these geese occur, and includes sustainable population objectives and thresholds that trigger prescriptive changes in harvest regulations.

The current population objective is 650,000 birds (range 500,000 - 800,000) based on a three-year running average from the annual fall survey in Prairie Canada. When the population is within these parameters, the objective is a base level of harvest (harvest similar to that from 1990-96). When the three-year average exceeds 800,000, a liberal harvest package is prescribed; if it falls below 500,000 on any one count, a restrictive harvest package is to be implemented, remaining in force until the three-year average exceeds 600,000 birds.

The three-year average has declined steadily since 2000, when the population exceeded one million birds, to 565,100 in 2005. The 2005 count of 522,800 is the lowest since the fall survey began in 1992, and is close to the 500,000 threshold for triggering the most restrictive harvest regulations. All jurisdictions have enjoyed liberal regulations in recent years, even though the population has been within the limits described for base regulations since 2003. As a result, the United States implemented regulations in 2005 designed to reduce harvest, with the understanding that Canada would follow suit in 2006.

After considering a number of options designed to reduce the harvest of white-fronted geese, Saskatchewan is proposing to retain the daily bag limit of five birds for residents, but reduce it to three for non-residents, a measure expected to reduce harvest by about 10 percent. This proposal is

based on a recent trend towards increased goose harvest by non-residents, who now account for about 70 percent of the white-fronts harvested in Saskatchewan. The harvest strategy proposed by the Canadian Wildlife Service and Saskatchewan Environment would assist international efforts designed to facilitate the recovery of mid-continent white-fronted geese, while ensuring that goose hunting remains a strong social and economic force in the province.

Alberta

White-fronted Geese

For the same reasons described above for Saskatchewan, it is proposed to retain the daily bag limit of five birds for residents, but reduce it to three for non-residents.

British Columbia

Canvasback, Northern Pintails, Harlequin Ducks and Goldeneyes

We propose that the current restrictive regulations on Canvasback, Northern Pintails, Harlequin Ducks and goldeneyes be maintained.

Ducks, Coot, and Snipe Season, Snow and Ross' Geese Season, and Greater White-fronted Goose Season

In Hunting District 1, 2 and 6, the following minor date adjustments will be made to the regular hunting season to provide for traditional weekend openings and to accommodate Waterfowler Heritage Day.

For District No. 1:
For Ducks, Coots and Snipe and for Snow and Ross's Geese only:
October 7 2006 to January 19 2007

For District No. 2,
For Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 for Snow and Ross's Geese only:
October 7, 2006 to January 2, 2007 and
February 22 to March 10, 2007
For Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive, and for Ducks, Coots and Snipe only:
October 7 2006 to January 19 2007

For District No. 6,
For Provincial Management Units 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive only, for Ducks, Coots and Snipe and for Snow and Ross's Geese only:
September 3 2006 to November 30 2006

Pacific Population of Western Canada Goose

Over the last few years, a number of strategies including the introduction of multiple hunting seasons ("split seasons") have been implemented in the southern part of the province to increase the harvest of resident Canada Geese. It is proposed that the current opening and closing dates for each split season be maintained in Management Districts 1, 3 and 8. In Hunting Districts 1 and 2, minor date adjustments will be made to the regular or split hunting seasons to provide for traditional weekend openings. In Hunting District 6, a minor date adjustment will be made to accommodate the new Waterfowler Heritage Days.

For District No. 1:
For Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-7 to 1-15 inclusive:
October 7 2006 to January 19 2007

For District No. 2:
For Provincial Management Units 2-5 to 2-7 inclusive; 2-9, 2-10 and 2-12 to 2-17 inclusive:
October 7, 2006 to January 19, 2007
For Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18 and 2-19 only:
September 9 to September 17, 2006
October 7 to November 26, 2006
December 16, 2006 to January 1, 2007
February 11 to March 10, 2007

Waterfowler Heritage Days

For Hunting District 1
Waterfowler Heritage Days for Ducks, Snow and Ross's Geese are proposed for September 30 and October 1. Waterfowler Heritage Days for Canada Goose only are proposed for September 9 and 10 for Management Units 1-1, 1-2, 1-4, 1-5 and 1-6 only, and for September 30 and October 1 for Management Units 1-3, and 1-7 to 1-15 inclusive.

For Hunting District 2
Waterfowler Heritage Days are proposed for September 30 and October 1 for Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive for Ducks and Canada Geese only, and additionally, in Management Unit 2-4 and 2-5 only, for Snow and Ross's Goose. Waterfowler Heritage Days are proposed for September 2 and 3 for Management Unit 2-11, for Ducks and Canada Goose only.

For Hunting District 3
Waterfowler Heritage Days are proposed for September 2 and 3.

For Hunting District 4
Waterfowler Heritage Days are proposed for September 2 and 3.

For Hunting District 5

Waterfowler Heritage Days are proposed for September 9 and 10.

For Hunting District 6

Waterfowler Heritage Days are proposed for September 16 and 17 for Provincial Management Units 6-3 and 6-11 to 6-14 only, and for September 1 and 2 for Management Units 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive..

For Hunting District 8

Waterfowler Heritage Days are proposed for September 2 and 3.

Band-tailed Pigeon

It is proposed that the current restrictive regulations on Band-tailed Pigeon be maintained.

Nunavut

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2006-2007 season.

Northwest Territories

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2006-2007 season.

Yukon Territory

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2006-2007 season.

Updates to the Migratory Birds Regulations

Hunting from a vehicle for hunters with physical disabilities

The Field and Stream Association for Manitobans with Disabilities has contacted the Canadian Wildlife Service requesting that an amendment to the Migratory Birds Regulations be considered to allow the use of a vehicle while hunting migratory birds. The association reported that the provincial hunting regulations in Manitoba had been modified to allow a permanently disabled hunter to discharge a firearm from a stationary vehicle while hunting for big game.

Enquiring about other provincial approaches, CWS found that the question of hunting by persons with disabilities is a complex situation that is being handled differently in different provincial jurisdictions. In some instances the discharge of a firearm from a vehicle is considered to be strictly a safety issue and it has therefore been prohibited for all persons. In many cases, however, provincial authorities provide an exception either through administrative procedures and/or through regulations. In those instances, the province has usually developed an approach to identify who is eligible.

Preliminary enquiries suggest that a change could be made to the Migratory Birds Regulations accommodating persons with disabilities that are otherwise unable to hunt migratory birds due to the prohibition against hunting from a vehicle. CWS is concerned that measures for the retrieval of game birds be accounted for.

CWS is in the process of drafting proposed regulations that would allow persons with disabilities that are prevented from hunting migratory birds due to the prohibition against hunting from a vehicle to hunt from a stationary vehicle after provincial safety requirements are followed. This exception would not include a relaxation of any other provisions such as-section 16 of the Migratory Birds Regulations regarding the requirement to retrieve the game birds shot.

New prohibition regarding wastage of migratory birds

The Migratory Birds Regulations have several provisions to ensure sustainable use of migratory game birds. Some provisions deal directly with the setting of bag and possession limits and season opening dates, other provisions address hunting methods and equipments, the obligation of retrieving birds, and more. All these tools contribute to the maintenance and sustainable use of migratory bird populations. The regulations however do not have a provision that explicitly prohibits the wastage of migratory game birds.

The absence of a provision prohibiting wastage has been noted by several interest groups including aboriginal hunters. It is clear that such a prohibition falls within the spirit of the Migratory Birds Convention, where the values associated with migratory birds are emphasized in its preamble: "Committed to the long-term conservation of shared species of migratory birds for their nutritional, social, cultural, spiritual, ecological, economic, and aesthetic values....".

Several provincial regulations addressing the conservation of wildlife have specific provisions that prohibit wastage. These regulations do not always cover migratory birds and thus, CWS is considering the development of an explicit regulatory provision that would prohibit wastage of

migratory birds.

Addition of a new non toxic shot

It is proposed that the *Migratory Birds Regulations* and the *Wildlife Area Regulations* be amended in the coming year to authorize the possession and use of a new non-toxic shot, called "tungsten-iron-nickel-copper shot"., A proposal will be posted for public consultation in Canada Gazette.

National Harvest Survey

Since 1967 the National Harvest Survey has been used to provide wildlife managers with data on harvest and hunting activity of migratory game bird species in Canada. Two large-scale surveys are run annually: the Questionnaire Survey and the Wing and Tail Survey or Species Composition Survey. For more information about the National Harvest Survey, consult our web site at www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/migb/01_1_4_e.cfm.

Sales figures for the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit (MGBHP) are also available from the web site. MGBHP sales decreased slightly in 2004 to 170,133, -2.7 % from 2003. Most noticeable changes in sales were an increase of 9% in Saskatchewan and declines of 8.7% and 12.2% in Nova-Scotia and British-Columbia, respectively. Since 1979, sales had been declining at an average annual rate of 4%. Specific causes for this decline are unknown.

We encourage you to ask questions or make comments about our surveys, including occasional surveys such as the spring Snow Goose hunt surveys or Murre / sea duck surveys, by contacting your regional CWS Office or by sending an email to this address: nhs_inquiries@ec.gc.ca.

Literature Cited

Batt, B. D. J. (ed.). 1997. Arctic Ecosystems in peril: report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group. Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario.

Batt, B. D. J. (ed.). 1998. The Greater Snow Goose: report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group. Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario.

Boyd, H., Lévesque H. and K.M. Dickson. 2002. Changes in reported waterfowl hunting activity and kill in Canada and the United States, 1985-1998. Canadian Wildlife Service Occas. Paper No. 107, 24pp.

Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee. 2004. Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada: November 2004. CWS Migr. Birds Regul. Rep. No. 13.

Appendices

Appendix A. Special Conservation Measures - Proposals for 2006 - as published in Canada Gazette Part 1, 24 December 2005.

For 2006, it is proposed that special conservation measures be maintained in Québec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut, as shown below. Minor changes to the dates in Québec are proposed.

MEASURES IN QUÉBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES
(MINOR DATE CHANGES)

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	District A	May 1 to June 30 and September 1 to December 10	Recorded bird calls (*d*) (*f*)
2.	District B	September 16 to December 26	Recorded bird calls (*d*) (*f*)
3.	District C and D	April 1 to May 31 (*a*), September 1 to September 15 (*a*) and September 16 to December 16	Recorded bird calls (*d*) (*f*)
4.	District E	April 1 to May 31 (*a*), September 1 to September 15 (*a*) and September 16 to December 16	Recorded bird calls (*d*)(*f*) and bait or bait crop area (*e*)
5.	District F,G,H,I	April 1 to May 31 (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) September 6 to September 22(*a*) and September 23 to December 26	Recorded bird calls (*d*)(*f*) and bait or bait crop area (*e*)
6.	District J	September 23 to December 26	Recorded bird calls (*d*)(*f*)

(*a*) Hunting and hunting equipment (decoys) are allowed only on farmland.

(*b*) In District F, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the road right-of-way of Route #132 between Forgues Street at Berthier-sur-Mer and the eastern limit of Cap St-Ignace municipality.

(*c*) In District G, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt north of the St. Lawrence River and south of a line located at 1 000 m north of highway no. 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River. On the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way located near Route #132 between the Nicolet River in the east and Lacerte Road in the west.

(*d*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(*e*) Hunting with bait or in a bait crop area is permitted if the Regional Director has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3.

(f) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded bird calls, the decoys must represent white-phase Snow geese in adult (white) or juvenile (grey) plumage.

MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES (NO CHANGE)

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	Zone 1	April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls (a)
2.	Zone 2	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)
3.	Zone 3	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)
4.	Zone 4	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(b) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese.

MEASURES IN SASKATCHEWAN CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES (NO CHANGE)

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	East of 106° W Longitude	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)
2.	West of 106° W Longitude	April 1 to April 30	Recorded bird calls (a)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(b) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese.

MEASURES IN NUNAVUT CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES
(NO CHANGE)

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	Throughout Nunavut	May 1 - June 7	Recorded bird calls *(a)*(*b*)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(b) If using decoys when hunting with recorded bird calls, decoys must be white.

Appendix B. Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting

(Revised June 1999, updated December 2001).

A. Description of Regulations

The *Migratory Birds Regulations* are part of the regulations respecting the protection of migratory birds in general, as mandated by the *Migratory Birds Convention* (MBC). According to the *MBC Act, 1994*, the Governor in Council may make regulations providing for:

1. The periods during which, or the geographic areas in which, migratory birds may be killed.
2. The species and number of migratory game birds that a person may kill in any period when doing so is permitted by the regulation.
3. The manner in which migratory game birds may be killed and the equipment that may be used.
4. The periods in each year during which a person may have in possession migratory game birds killed during the season when the taking of such birds was legal, and the number of birds that may be possessed.

This document deals with these four aspects of regulation, although the *Migratory Birds Regulations* deal with other areas as well.

B. Guiding Principles

Guiding principles for migratory bird hunting regulations include those laid out in the Guidelines for Wildlife Policy in Canada as approved by the Wildlife Ministers at the Wildlife Ministers Conference, 30 September 1982. In particular, the most relevant principles are:

1. The maintenance of viable natural wildlife stocks always takes precedence over their use.
2. Canadians are temporary custodians, not the owners, of their wildlife heritage.
3. Canadians are free to enjoy and use wildlife in Canada, subject to laws aimed at securing its sustainable enjoyment and use.
4. The cost of management essential to preserving viable populations of wildlife should be borne by all Canadians; special management measures required to permit intensive uses should be supported by the users.
5. Wildlife has intrinsic, social and economic values, but wildlife sometimes causes problems that require management.
6. Conservation of wildlife relies upon a well-informed public.

C. Objectives of the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations

1. To provide an opportunity for Canadians to hunt migratory game birds, by establishing hunting seasons. Guidelines for hunting regulations are described in Section D. Briefly, regulations should be based on a number of features specific to the geographic area under consideration. Factors such as the timing of arrival and departure of migrating birds, the status of local breeding populations, fledging of local broods and completion of the moult of successfully breeding females, and other special issues such as the status of species, should be used to determine the most effective hunting regulations. Sometimes regulations may need to be based on the species of highest conservation concern.
2. To manage the take of migratory game birds at levels compatible with the species ability to sustain healthy populations consistent with the available habitat throughout their range.
3. To conserve the genetic diversity within migratory game bird populations.
4. To provide hunting opportunity in various parts of Canada within the limits imposed by the abundance, migration, and distribution patterns of migratory bird populations, and with due respect for the traditional

use of the migratory game bird resource in Canada.

5. To limit the accidental killing of a migratory game bird species requiring protection because of poor population status, where there is a reasonable possibility that a hunter might confuse that species with another for which there is an open season.

6. To assist, at times and in specific locations, in the prevention of damage to natural habitat or depredation of agricultural crops by migratory game birds.

D. Guidelines for the Regulations on Migratory Game Bird Hunting

1. Regulations shall be established according to the requirements of the *Migratory Birds Convention* and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, 1994.

2. Regulations shall address the Principles of Section B and the Objectives of Section C.

3. Unless needs dictate otherwise, hunting regulations will be changed as little as possible from year to year.

4. Regulations should be simple and readily enforceable.

5. Where a conflict arises between allocation of harvest among jurisdictions and the conservation of migratory game bird populations, the conservation objective shall take precedence.

6. When uncertainty exists about the status of a migratory game bird population, a precautionary approach will be taken in establishing sustainable hunting regulations.

7. Hunting regulations may not discriminate among Canadian hunters based on their province or territory of residence. This guideline does not preclude recognition of aboriginal rights.

8. Regulations should be consistent in jurisdictions where important concentration areas for staging waterfowl straddle borders.

9. Where possible, regional, national and international harvest strategies will be developed among management agencies that share populations. Regulations will be designed to meet mutual targets for harvest, harvest rate or population size.

10. Specific regulation changes will be developed through a process of co-management and public consultation with other interested groups and individuals.

11. Hunting regulations should be consistent with terms of agreements in aboriginal land claim settlements.

E. Regulatory Process

Regulations may be established each year in one of two ways; selection of a regulatory package from a pre-established set of possible packages, or through an annual regulatory consultation process.

Pre-established sets of regulatory alternatives:
Regulatory alternatives may be pre-established according to the guidelines outlined in section D, with the selection made in any year based on a predetermined set of conditions. For example, a set of three regulatory packages with decreasing harvest rates could be described; liberal, moderate and restrictive. The criteria for annual selection among the alternatives could be based on the results of population surveys. This method would reduce the time required to conduct the usual annual process, simplify the implementation of multi-jurisdictional harvest strategies, and increase the predictability of regulations.

Annual regulatory process:
The Minister of the Environment must be in a position to proceed with any changes to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* for the upcoming hunting season by the second Monday in June. To ensure that the regulations are made with the best possible advice, a broad process of consultation must be carried out. Reports produced as part of this process may be obtained from Regional Directors, Environmental Conservation, or the Director, Wildlife Conservation Branch, Canadian Wildlife Service.

1. The Canadian Wildlife Service, national office, issues a status report on migratory game bird populations at the beginning of November. This report describes the biological information available to determine the status of each population.

2. Regional officials (biologists and management) of the Canadian Wildlife Service and provincial and territorial wildlife officials will consult with non-government organizations and interested individuals on issues related to hunting regulations for the coming season. To ensure that all parties have access to the best possible biological information, the November status report may be used as an aid.

3. The initial suggestions for regulation changes will be developed through regional consultation processes. These processes may vary among regions, but should include active participation by provincial and territorial wildlife agencies, wildlife co-management boards and affected stakeholders. The changes, with rationale and predicted effect (Section F) are described in a regulation report issued at the end of December from the national office. This report allows inter-regional and international consideration of proposed changes.

4. Public and organizational comments on the proposals outlined in the December report should be sent to the appropriate Regional Director, or the Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service.

5. Final regulation proposals, incorporating input from the consultations, are submitted from the Regional Directors of Environmental Conservation to the Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service, by the end of March.

6. The regulation proposals are moved, by the national office, through the process for consideration by the government beginning in June.

7. Population surveys are carried out throughout the year. From time to time these surveys may show an unexpected change in migratory game bird populations that require a sudden revision to the national regulation proposals.

8. The final regulations, as approved by the Governor-in-Council and the Special Committee of Council, are described in a report which is distributed to all involved parties. Each purchaser of a migratory game bird hunting permit receives a summary of the regulations for that province.

F. Items to Be Addressed in Regulatory Proposals

Proposals to change migratory game bird hunting regulations should address the following questions:

1. What is the goal of the regulatory change?

2. How does the change address the Objectives and Guidelines set out in this document?

3. What is the predicted effect of the proposal? An analysis based on existing data sources should be included.

4. How will the actual effect of the regulatory change be measured?

The proposals should be as concise as possible, while still including the required elements. A simplified rationale would apply for regulations that carry out previously negotiated harvest strategies and agreements.

Appendix C. 2005 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory.

(following pages; also available on the CWS national Web site at http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/publications/reg/index_E.cfm.))

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service / Service canadien de la faune

Newfoundland and Labrador

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

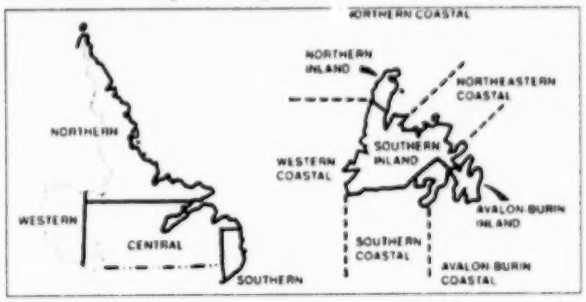
Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Canadian Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1201
Lewisporte, Newfoundland A0G 3A0
Tel.: (709) 535-0601
Fax: (709) 535-2743
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions. The season length and bag limit restrictions implemented in 1998 for eiders, Long-tailed Ducks (Oldsquaw or hounds), scoters, and mergansers remain in effect. Note that in some winters, such as experienced in early 2005, heavy ice conditions make sea ducks very vulnerable to high harvest. Should these conditions reoccur in 2006, the Canadian Wildlife Service may decide to implement partial closures in affected zones. In this case, there will be announcements in local newspapers and on radio.

Waterfowl and Snipe Hunting Zones



"Coastal" refers to that portion of the coast lying within 100 metres of the mean ordinary high-water mark, including the coastal portions of offshore islands and the adjacent marine coastal waters.

Reminder: it is illegal to hunt migratory birds, including sea ducks, from a power boat unless the motor is not in operation and all forward progress of the boat has ceased. This regulation does not apply to persons hunting murres (turrs).

Attention murre (turr) hunters: In the 2005-06 season, **all** hunters must purchase and be in possession of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and Habitat Conservation Stamp while hunting murres (turrs). Season length and bag limits for hunting murres remain in effect. The non-toxic shot regulation described below does not apply to murres/turrs.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, murres (turrs), and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

CRIME STOPPERS

Hunting violations may be reported to the Canadian Wildlife Service office, your local RCMP detachment, or Crime Stoppers (1-800-363-8477).

OPEN SEASONS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks****)

Area	Ducks, including mergansers (other than Oldsquaw*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters), geese, and snipe	Oldsquaw*, eiders, and scoters
All Coastal Zones	Third Saturday of September to second Saturday of December	Fourth Saturday of November to the last day of February
All Inland Zones	Third Saturday of September to second Saturday of December	No open season

* Oldsquaw ducks are now referred to as Long-tailed Ducks.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Oldsquaw*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers	Oldsquaw*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	6	6(c)	5	10
Possession	12(b)	12	12(d)	10	20

(a) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks.
(b) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks.
(c) After the first Monday in February not more than three may be eiders.
(d) After the first Monday in February not more than six may be eiders.
* Oldsquaw ducks are now referred to as Long-tailed Ducks.

OPEN SEASONS IN LABRADOR **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks** and eiders), geese, and snipe	Eiders
Northern Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	Last Saturday in September to second Saturday in January
Western Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	No open season
Southern Labrador Zone	Second Saturday in September to third Saturday in December	Fourth Saturday in November to last day of February
Central Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	Last Saturday in October to last Saturday in November and first Saturday in January to last day of February

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN LABRADOR

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers, scoters, and eiders	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6	6(a)	5	10
Possession	12	12(b)	10	20

(a) After the first Monday in February not more than three may be eiders.
(b) After the first Monday in February not more than six may be eiders.

** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

OPEN SEASONS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Area	Murres
Zone No. 1	September 1 to December 16
Zone No. 2	October 7 to January 21
Zone No. 3	November 24 to March 10
Zone No. 4	November 2 to January 10 February 2 to March 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Limits	Murres
Daily Bags	20
Possession	40

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service / Service canadien de la faune

Prince Edward Island

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Canadian Wildlife Service
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: (506) 364-5032
Fax: (506) 364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with Prince Edward Island Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-566-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), snipe, and geese	Woodcock
Throughout the Province of Prince Edward Island	September 17	First Monday of October to second Saturday of December	Last Monday in September to second Saturday in December

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	5	8	10
Possession	12(b)	10	16	20

(a) Not more than four may be Mallards, Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids, or American Black Ducks.
(b) Not more than eight may be Mallards, Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids, or American Black Ducks.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service / Service canadien de la faune

Nova Scotia

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Canadian Wildlife Service
5th Floor, Queen's Square
45 Alderney Drive
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 2N6
Tel.: (902) 426-1188
Fax: (902) 426-6434
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Use of bait prior to and during the migratory bird hunting season is prohibited. Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

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For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

CRIME STOPPERS

Hunting violations may be reported to the CWS office, your local RCMP detachment, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources 1-800-565-2224, or Crime Stoppers 1-800-422-8477.

OPEN SEASONS IN NOVA SCOTIA (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Additional seasons for Common and Red-breasted mergansers	Additional seasons for Oldsquaw**, eiders, and scoters in coastal waters only	Additional seasons for scaup, goldeneyes, and Buffleheads	Geese	Woodcock and snipe
Zone No. 1*	Sept. 24	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	No additional season	No additional season	No additional season	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 2*	Sept. 24	Oct. 8 to Dec. 31	Oct. 1 to Oct. 7 and Jan. 2 to Jan. 7 (in coastal waters only)	Oct. 1 to Oct. 7 and Jan. 2 to Jan. 7	Jan. 2 to Jan. 7	Oct. 8 to Jan. 14	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 3*	Sept. 24	Oct. 8 to Dec. 31	Jan. 2 to Jan. 7	No additional season	Jan. 2 to Jan. 7	Oct. 8 to Jan. 14	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30

* "Zone No. 1" means the counties of Antigonish, Pictou, Colchester, Cumberland, Hants, Kings, and Annapolis.
"Zone No. 2" means the counties of Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg, Halifax, Guysborough, Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness, and Richmond, except the area described under Zone 3.
"Zone No. 3" means Bras d'Or Lake and all waters draining into Bras d'Or Lake including waters on the lake side of the highway bridge on Great Bras d'Or at Seal Islands (Highway No. 105), at St. Peters on St. Peters Inlet (Highway No. 4), and at Bras d'Or on St. Andrews Channel (Highway No. 105).

** Oldsquaw ducks are now referred to as Long-tailed Ducks.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Oldsquaw, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Oldsquaw, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	5	5	8	10
Possession	12(b)	10	10	16	20

(a) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks.
(b) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service / Service canadien de la faune
New Brunswick

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Canadian Wildlife Service
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: (506) 364-5032
Fax: (506) 364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions, such as the 1:00 P.M. closure for Tabusintac and Tracadie lagoons, the requirement to use a dog while hunting woodcock during September, etc.

Hunting Zones

Zone No.1
Saint John County south of No. 1 Highway and west of Saint John Harbour, that part of Charlotte County lying south of No. 1 Highway, and the Grand Manan Islands and Campobello Island, except the following area, which is closed to hunting: the area in the Bay of Fundy known as The Wolves, including the surrounding waters.

Zone No. 2
The remainder of the Province of New Brunswick, except the following, which are closed to hunting: the estuary of the Tabusintac River, Bathurst Basin and most of Bathurst Harbour (two islands remain open and signs have been posted to indicate their locations), and the Dalhousie shoreline from the eastern tip of Dalhousie Island to the mouth of the Miller Brook and extending one kilometre offshore.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with New Brunswick Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN NEW BRUNSWICK (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, and snipe	Additional season for Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Oldsquaw*, eiders and scoters in coastal waters only	Woodcock
Zone No. 1	September 17	October 15 to January 3	February 1 to February 25	September 15 to November 30
Zone No. 2	September 17	October 1 to December 17	No additional season	September 15 to November 30

* Oldsquaw ducks are now referred to as Long-tailed Ducks.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Oldsquaw*, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Oldsquaw,* eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	6(c)	5	8	10
Possession	12(b)	12(d)	10	16	20

(a) Not more than three may be American Black Ducks.
(b) Not more than six may be American Black Ducks.
(c) Not more than four may be scoters and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 25; not more than four eiders may be taken daily.
(d) Not more than eight may be scoters and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 25; not more than eight eiders may be possessed.
* Oldsquaw ducks are now referred to as Long-tailed Ducks.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.*

*In Quebec, these signs also identify no-hunting zones.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the retrieval of birds, description of hunting districts and non-hunting areas, contact:

Canadian Wildlife Service
1141, route de l'Église
P.O. Box 10100
Sainte-Foy, Quebec G1V 4H5
Tel.: 1 800 463-4311
Fax: (418) 649-6475
www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html

A provincial hunting permit for small game is required to hunt migratory birds in Quebec. While hunting, it is obligatory for hunters to carry their permits with them. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2005-2006 federal permits.

Non-residents of Canada hunting woodcock have a lower daily bag limit than Canadian hunters.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

NOTE
Waterfowler Heritage Day is September 10 for districts B, C, D and E; September 17 for districts F, G, H, I and J. The opening hunting date for ducks is September 17 for districts B, C, D and E; September 24 for districts F, G, H, I, and J. The non-hunting area of Côte de Beaupré west has been abolished.

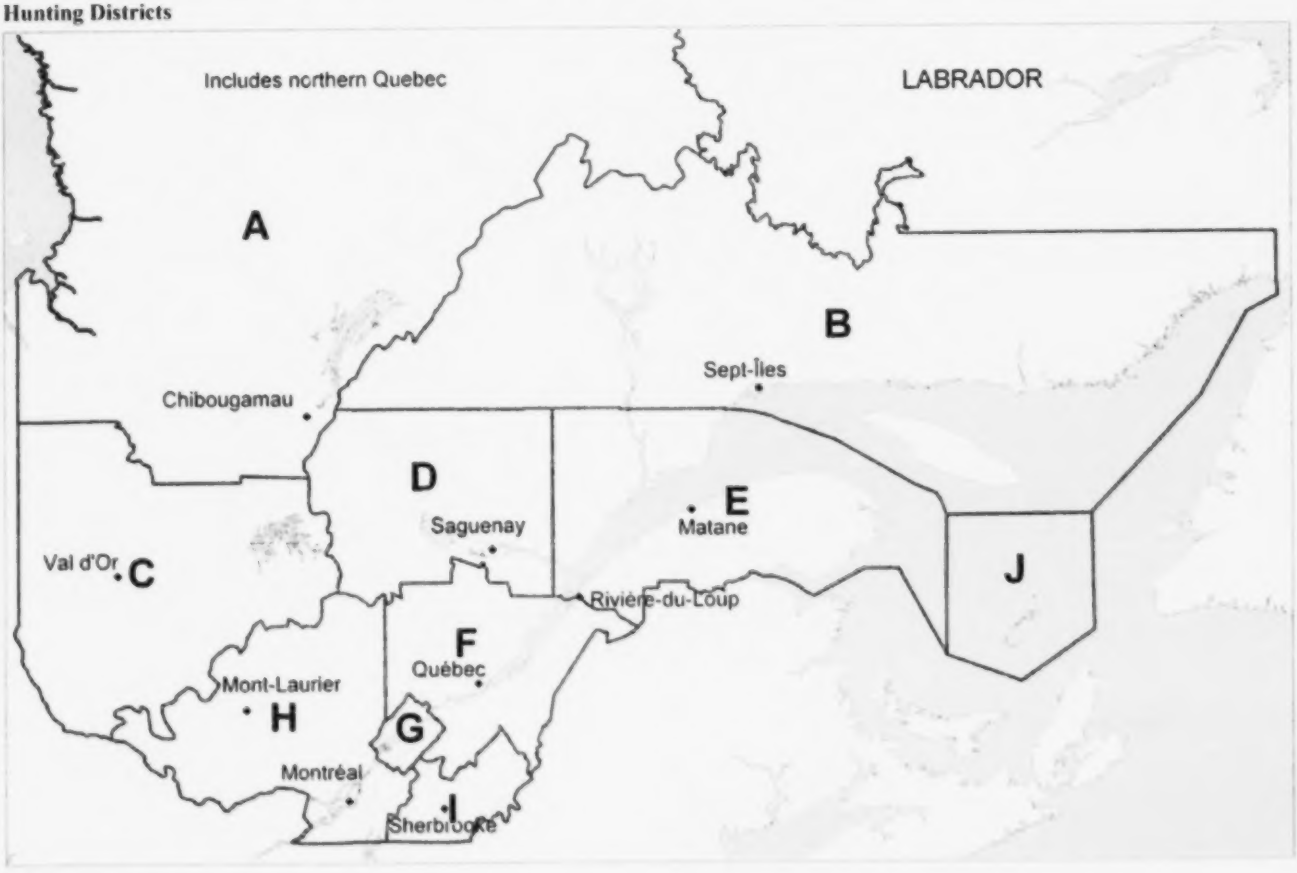
OPEN SEASONS IN QUEBEC (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks or rails**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, woodcock and snipe WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks (other than eiders, Harlequin Ducks, and Long-tailed Ducks•), geese (other than Canada and Snow geese), and snipe	Canada Geese	Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks•	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock
A	N/A	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	No open season	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10
B	Sept. 10	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26	Oct. 1 to Jan. 14(b)	No open season	Sept. 10 to Dec. 22
C, D and E	Sept. 10	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26(c)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 16(a) Sept. 17 to Dec. 21	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26	No open season	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26
F, G, H, and I	Sept. 17(d)	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26(c)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 23(a) Sept. 24 to Dec. 21	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26
J	Sept. 17	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Nov. 1 to Feb. 14	No open season	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26

(a) In Districts C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, hunting for Canada Geese is allowed only on farmland.
(b) In District B along the North Shore west of the Natashquan River, the hunting seasons for eiders and Long-tailed Ducks are from October 1 to October 24 inclusive and from November 15 to February 5 inclusive.
(c) In District E, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 in Provincial Hunting Zone # 21 and 100 metres beyond this zone. In District F, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 between Pointe Jureux (St. Irénée) and Gros Cap à l'Aigle (St. Fidèle) from routes 362 and 138 to 2 kilometres within Provincial Hunting Zone # 21.
(d) In Districts F, G, H and I, hunting for coots and gallinules is allowed during Waterfowler Heritage Day.

• Oldsquaw ducks are now referred to as Long-tailed Ducks.

Hunting Districts



BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN QUEBEC

Limits	Ducks	Geese (other than Snow Geese)	Snow Geese	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)(b)(c)(d)(f)	5(f)	20(f)	4(f)	8(e)(f)	10(f)
Possession	12(a)(b)(c)(d)	10	60	8	16	20

(a) Not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in Districts A, B, C, D, E, F, and J.
(b) Not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of four in Districts G, H, and I. Between November 1 and December 26, not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in Districts G, H, and I (only lying east of Gatineau River).
(c) Not more than two Blue-winged Teal may be taken daily, with a possession limit of four in Districts A, B, C, D, E, and J.
(d) Not more than one Blue-winged Teal may be taken daily, with a possession limit of two in Districts F, G, H, and I.
(e) For non-residents of Canada, not more than four woodcock may be taken daily.
(f) Not more than three birds in total may be taken on Waterfowler Heritage Days. The additional species restrictions described in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) continue to apply within this limit.

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that the additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted **only** during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2005–2006 federal permits.

MEASURES IN QUEBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
District A	May 1 to June 30 and September 1 to December 10	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
District B	September 17 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
Districts C and D	April 1 to May 31(a), September 6 to September 16(a), and September 17 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
District E	April 1 to May 31(a), September 6 to September 16(a), and September 17 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f) and bait or bait crop area(e)
Districts F, G, H, and I	April 1 to May 31(a)(b)(c), September 6 to September 23(a), and September 24 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f) and bait or bait crop area(e)
District J	September 24 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)

(a) Hunting is allowed only on farmland.
(b) In District F, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the road right-of-way of Route 132 between Forgues Street at Berthier-sur-Mer and the eastern limit of Cap-Saint-Ignace municipality.
(c) In District G, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt north of the St. Lawrence River and south of a line located at 1 000 m north of Highway 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River. On the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way located near Route 132 between the Nicolet River in the east and Lacerte Road in the west.
(d) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(e) Hunting with bait and hunting in a bait crop area are permitted if the Regional Director of Environmental Conservation of Environment Canada has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3 of the Migratory Birds Regulations.
(f) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white phase Snow Geese.

Canada

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Environment Canada / Canadian Wildlife Service
Environnement Canada / Service canadien de la faune
Ontario

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada
P.O. Box 5050, 867 Lakeshore Road
Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6
(905) 336-6410
www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife_e.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

Note that hunting restrictions have been put in place for the Wolfe Island area to address concerns over the declining use of this area by waterfowl. As a result, hunting will be permitted in the Wolfe Island area only when hunters are on the island, on the shore, in the shoreline marsh, or on a dock within 20 metres of the shore.

Hunting Districts

1. **Hudson–James Bay District**
   Wildlife Management Units 1A, 1B, and the portions of Wildlife Management Units 1D, 25, and 26 lying east of longitude 83°45' and north of latitude 51°
2. **Northern District**
   Wildlife Management Unit 1C, those parts of 1D, 25, and 26 lying west of longitude 83°45' and south of latitude 51°, and Wildlife Management Units 2 to 24, 27 to 41, and 45
3. **Central District**
   Wildlife Management Units 42 to 44 and 46 to 59
4. **Southern District**
   Wildlife Management Units 60A and 61 to 95

OPEN SEASONS IN ONTARIO (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), Common Moorhens, American Coots, Common Snipe, geese (other than Canada Geese)	Canada Geese*	Woodcock
1. Hudson–James Bay District	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15
2. Northern District	Sept. 10 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 15 to Dec. 15
3. Central District	Sept. 17 to Dec. 20	Sept. 6 to Dec. 20	Sept. 20 to Dec. 20
4. Southern District	Sept. 24 to Dec. 20(g)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 17(a)(g) and Sept. 10 to Sept. 23(b)(g) and Sept. 24 to Jan. 4(c)(g) and Sept. 24 to Jan. 5(d)(g) and Nov. 1 to Jan. 5(e)(g) and Feb. 21 to Feb. 28(f)(g)	Sept. 25 to Dec. 20(g)

(a) In Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the Township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95 inclusive.
(b) In Wildlife Management Units 62, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell), and 66 to 71 inclusive.
(c) In Wildlife Management Units 62 to 71 inclusive.
(d) In Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 72 to 93 inclusive, and 95.
(e) In Wildlife Management Unit 94.
(f) In Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 62, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell), 66 to 71 inclusive, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the Township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 93 inclusive.
(g) No person shall hunt migratory birds on the following Sundays during the hunting season in the Southern District: from September 11 to January 1, and February 26. These Sunday exclusions do not apply, and Sunday hunting is permitted, in the United Counties of Prescott and Russell, in the Township of Haldimand, in the County of Northumberland, and in that portion in Wildlife Management Unit 63 of the County of Renfrew. Sunday exclusions do not apply to falconers who may hunt only ducks on Sundays from September 25 to December 18 inclusive.

* See below for simplified presentation of Canada Goose Regulations for Southern District.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ONTARIO

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Geese* (other than Snow Geese) and Brant	Snow Geese	Rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), American Coots, Common Snipe, and Common Moorhens	Woodcock
Daily bags	6(a)(b)(c)	5(d)(e)(f)(g)	10	10	8
Possession	12(a)(b)(c)	10(d)(e)(f)(g)	40	20	16

(a) Not more than one American Black Duck may be taken daily and not more than two American Black Ducks may be possessed in Central and Southern Districts and not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily and not more than four American Black Ducks may be possessed in Hudson–James Bay and Northern Districts.
(b) Not more than four Canvasbacks may be taken daily and not more than eight Canvasbacks may be possessed.
(c) Not more than four Redheads may be taken daily and not more than eight Redheads may be possessed.
(d) Not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than 10 Canada Geese may be possessed in that portion of Wildlife Management Unit 1D in Hudson–James Bay District, and in Wildlife Management Units 23 to 31 inclusive and 37 to 41 inclusive from September 10 to December 15 inclusive.
(e) Not more than two Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than four Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Unit 94 from November 1 to January 5 inclusive.
(f) Not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than 10 Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Units 82 to 86 inclusive and 93 from September 24 to October 31 inclusive.
(g) Three additional Canada Geese may be taken daily and fourteen additional Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Units 36 and 45 from September 1 to September 9 inclusive; in Central District from September 6 to September 16 inclusive; in Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the Township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95 inclusive from September 6 to September 17 inclusive; in Wildlife Management Units 62, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell) and 66 to 71 inclusive from September 10 to September 23 inclusive; and in Wildlife Management Units 60A to 62 inclusive, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell), 66 to 71 inclusive, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 93 inclusive from February 21 to February 28 inclusive .

* See below for simplified presentation of Canada Goose Regulations for Southern District.

SUMMARY OF CANADA GOOSE REGULATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ONTARIO

Daily Limit	**8**	**8**	**3**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**2**	**8**
Poss. Limit	24	24	10	10	10	10	4	24
Start	6 Sept.	10 Sept.	24 Sept.	1 Nov.	24 Sept.	24 Sept.	1 Nov.	21 Feb.
Close	17 Sept.	23 Sept.	31 Oct.	5 Jan.	4 Jan.	5 Jan.	5 Jan.	28 Feb.
WMU								
60A	X					X		X
61	X					X		X
62		X			X			X
63		Except part in Renfrew Co.			X			Except part in Renfrew Co.
64A		X			X			X
64B		X			X			X
65		Except Prescott-Russell			X			Except Prescott-Russell
66		X			X			X
67		X			X			X
68		X			X			X
69		X			X			X
70		X			X			X
71		X			X			X
72A	Except Haldimand					X		Except Haldimand
72B	X					X		X
73	X					X		X
74	X					X		X
75	X					X		X
76	X					X		X
77	X					X		X
78	X					X		X
79	X					X		X
80	X					X		X
81	X					X		X
82	X		X	X				X
83	X		X	X				X
84	X		X	X				X
85	X		X	X				X
86	X		X	X				X
87	X					X		X
88	X					X		X
89	X					X		X
90	Except South Walsingham					X		Except South Walsingham
91	X					X		X
92	X					X		X
93	X		X	X				X
94	X						X	
95	X					X		
Season Table Footnotes	a	b	d	d	c	d	e	f
Limits Table Footnotes	g	g	f				e	g

Canada

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CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Canadian Wildlife Service — Environnement Canada / Service canadien de la faune

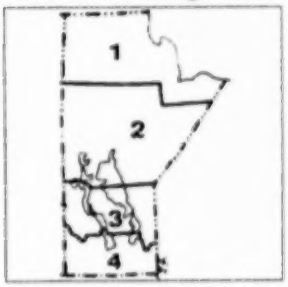
Manitoba

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

Game Bird Hunting Zones



The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
Suite 150
123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4W2
(204) 983-5263
www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/nature/ecb/index.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

OPEN SEASONS IN MANITOBA

Area	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks, Canada Geese, coots, and snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Sandhill Cranes RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snow and Ross's geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Zone 1	N/A	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(b)	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(b)
Zone 2	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30(a)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)
Zone 3	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)	Sept. 26 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 19 to Nov. 30(b)
Zone 4	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)	Sept. 26 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 19 to Nov. 30(b)

(a) In provincial Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) 6 and 6A only.
(b) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN MANITOBA

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and white-fronted geese, and Brant)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	8(c)	20	5(e)	5	8	10
Possession	16(b)	16(d)	80	15(f)	10	16	20

(a) In Zone 4 for Residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(b) In Zone 4 for Residents, not more than eight may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(c) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than two may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(d) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(e) Except that in provincial Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) 25, 25A, and 25B of Zone 4, non-residents may not take more than three Canada Geese daily.
(f) Except that in provincial GHAs 25, 25A, and 25B of Zone 4, non-residents may not possess more than nine Canada Geese.

NOTE
The open season for hunting of geese by non-residents in Game Bird Hunting Zone 4, and the Provincial Game Hunting Areas 13A, 14, 14A, all that portion of Game Hunting Area 16 south of the North limit of township 33, Game Hunting Areas 18, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19, 19A, 19B, 20, 21A, 23A, and 25 as described in Manitoba Regulation 220/86 as filed on September 25, 1986, includes only that part of each day from one-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from the opening date (September 26) to October 14 inclusive, and on and after October 15 geese may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that the additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted **only** during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details.

NOTE
Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2005–2006 federal permits.

MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Zone 1	April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)
Zones 2, 3, and 4	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to the Snow Goose call.
(b) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded bird calls, during the April–May and August 15–31 periods only, decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service / Service canadien de la faune

Saskatchewan

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

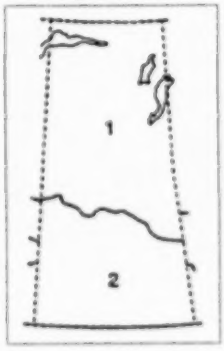
The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
115 Perimeter Road
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0X4
(306) 975-4919
www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/nature/ecb/index.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Hunting Districts



District No. 1 (North)
Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43 and 47 to 76 inclusive.

District No. 2 (South)
Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 1 to 42 inclusive and 44 to 46 inclusive.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, any migratory bird for which there is an open season may also be taken.

NOTE
Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2005–2006 federal permits.

OPEN SEASONS IN SASKATCHEWAN

District	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Geese RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	Sandhill Cranes
No. 1 (North)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(d)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(d)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
No. 2 (South)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(a)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(b)(d)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(d)	Sept. 10 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(c)

(a) Falconry season is open from September 1 to December 16 inclusive.
(b) Except White-fronted Geese; the season for residents of Saskatchewan for White-fronted Geese is from September 10 to December 16 inclusive.
(c) The Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all Sandhill Crane hunting.
(d) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

NOTE
The open season for geese for residents and non-residents of Saskatchewan in District No. 2 (South), and the Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43, 47 to 59 inclusive, and 67 to 69 inclusive, of District No. 1 (North) includes only that part of each day from one-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from September 1 to October 14, inclusive, and on and after October 15 geese may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset, except east of 106 degrees west longitude, where, on and after September 1, white geese (Snow and Ross's geese) may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset. Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all hunting until September 20.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN SASKATCHEWAN

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	20	8(c)	5	10	10
Possession	16(b)	60	16(d)	10	20	20

(a) Not more than three may be Northern Pintails.
(b) Not more than six may be Northern Pintails.
(c) Not more than five may be White-fronted Geese.
(d) Not more than 10 may be White-fronted Geese.

Cranes

Where the Director General of the Canadian Wildlife Service or the Chief Provincial Game Officer of Saskatchewan is of the opinion that Whooping Cranes may be in the Saskatchewan Sandhill Crane Management Area during the open season for Sandhill Cranes in that area, such officer may prohibit the hunting of Sandhill Cranes in that area, and thereafter no person shall hunt or kill Sandhill Cranes in that area in that year.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service / Service canadien de la faune

Alberta

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
4999-98 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
(780) 951-8891
www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/nature/ecb/index.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Hunting Zones

Hunters are advised to pay particular attention to the Alberta Hunting Guide to ensure that they are hunting for the correct species in the correct wildlife management unit during the permitted times and dates. Note that these zone numbers do not correspond to regions as presented in the Guide.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

OPEN SEASONS IN ALBERTA

Area	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Coots and snipe	Falconry season for ducks, coots, and snipe
Zones 1(a), 2, 3, 4, and 8*	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
Zones 5, 6, and 7*	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23

(a) Except that Alberta Wildlife Management Unit 841 in Zone 1 has an opening date of September 15.

* **"Zone No. 1"** means that part of Alberta included in Provincial Wildlife Management Units (PWMUs) 501 to 506, 509 to 512, 514 to 519, 529, 530 to 532, and 841.
"Zone No. 2" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 344, 347, 349, 350 to 360, 520 to 528, 534 to 537, 539, 540, 542, and 544.
"Zone No. 3" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 200, 202 to 204, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, and 500.
"Zone No. 4" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 206, 208, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336 to 340, 342, 346, 348, 429, 507, 508, and 936.
"Zone No. 5" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 151, 160 to 163, 164, and 166.
"Zone No. 6" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 104, 106, 107, 108, 110, 112, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 152, 156, 158, 210, 212, 214, 300, 302 to 306, 308, 310, 312, and 314.
"Zone No. 7" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 144, 148, and 150.
"Zone No. 8" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 316, 318, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416 to 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436 to 442, 444 to 446.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ALBERTA

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	20	8(c)	10	10
Possession	16(b)	60	16(d)	20	20

(a) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.
(b) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.
(c) Not more than five may be White-fronted Geese.
(d) Not more than 10 may be White-fronted Geese.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Canadian Wildlife Service — Environnement Canada / Service canadien de la faune

British Columbia

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue *signs marking National* Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
Pacific Wildlife Research Centre
R.R. 1, 5421 Robertson Road
Delta, British Columbia V4K 3N2
(604) 940-4710
www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/EN/Wildlife/about/index.shtml

Hunting Districts

1. Provincial Management Units (PMU) 1-1 to 1-15
2. PMU 2-2 to 2-19
3. PMU 3-12 to 3-20 and 3-26 to 3-44
4. PMU 4-1 to 4-9 and 4-14 to 4-40
5. PMU 5-1 to 5-15
6. PMU 6-1 to 6-30
7. PMU 7-2 to 7-58
8. PMU 8-1 to 8-15 and 8-21 to 8-26

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

OPEN SEASONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

District	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Snow and Ross's geese	Other geese	Brant	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
No. 1	Sept. 10 and 11(b) Oct. 1 and 2(p)	Oct. 8 to Jan. 20	Oct. 8 to Jan. 20	Oct. 8 to Jan. 20(a) Sept. 15 to Oct. 22(b)(h) Dec. 15 to Jan. 25(b)(h) Feb. 14 to March 10(b)(h)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30	No open season
No. 2	Sept. 3 and 4(j)(r) Oct. 1 and 2(q)	Oct. 8 to Jan. 20(g)(h) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(j)	Oct. 8 to Jan. 2(d) Feb. 21 to Mar. 10(d)	Oct. 8 to Jan. 20(e) Sept. 10 to Sept. 18(f)(h) Oct. 8 to Nov. 27(f)(h) Dec. 17 to Jan. 2(f)(h) Feb. 11 to Mar. 10(f)(h) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(c)(j)	Mar. 1 to Mar. 10(h)(i)	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(s)	No open season
No. 3	Sept. 3 and 4	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(k) Sept. 10 to Sept. 20(l) Oct. 1 to Dec. 23(l) Mar. 1 to Mar. 10(l)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(t)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30
No. 4	Sept. 3 and 4	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30
No. 5	Sept. 10 and 11	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 6	Sept. 17 and 18(n)	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30(m) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(n)	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30(m) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(n)	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30(m) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(n)	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 7	N/A	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 8	Sept. 3 and 4	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25(o) Sept. 20 to Nov. 28(c) Dec. 20 to Jan. 5(c) Feb. 21 to March 10(c)	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30

(a) Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-7 to 1-15 inclusive, and for Canada Geese only.
(b) Provincial Management Units 1-1, 1-2, 1-4, 1-5, and 1-6 only, and for Canada Geese only.
(c) For Canada Geese only.
(d) Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only.
(e) Provincial Management Units 2-5 to 2-7 inclusive, 2-9, 2-10, and 2-12 to 2-17 inclusive only, and for Canada Geese only.
(f) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, and for Canada Geese only.
(g) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive.
(h) See provincial regulations for local restrictions.
(i) Provincial Management Unit 2-4 only.
(j) Provincial Management Unit 2-11 only.
(k) Provincial Management Units 3-12 to 3-18 inclusive, 3-30 to 3-35, and 3-38 to 3-44 inclusive for White-fronted and Canada geese, and Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, 3-26 to 3-29, 3-36 and 3-37 inclusive for White-fronted Geese only.
(l) Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, and 3-26 to 3-29 , 3-36 and 3-37 inclusive and for Canada Geese only.
(m) Provincial Management Units 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive only.
(n) Provincial Management Units 6-3 and 6-11 to 6-14 inclusive only.
(o) For White-fronted Geese only.
(p) For Ducks, Snow Geese and Ross's Geese only, and additionally, in Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-7 to 1-15 inclusive, for Canada Geese.
(q) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive for ducks and Canada Geese only, and additionally, in Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only, for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese.
(r) For ducks and Canada Geese only.
(s) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-19 inclusive.
(t) Provincial Management Units 3-13 to 3-17 inclusive.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Coots	Snipe	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
Daily bags	8(a)(c)(e)(k)	5(g)(i)	10	10	5	5
Possession	16(b)(d)(f)(l)	10(h)(j)	20	20	10	10

(a) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.
(b) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.
(c) Not more than four may be Canvasbacks.
(d) Not more than eight may be Canvasbacks.
(e) Not more than two may be goldeneyes.
(f) Not more than four may be goldeneyes.
(g) Not more than two may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
(h) Not more than four may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
(i) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of five Canada Geese can be taken daily.
(j) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of 10 Canada Geese can be in possession daily.
(k) Not more than two may be Harlequin Ducks.
(l) Not more than four may be Harlequin Ducks.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service | Service canadien de la faune

Nunavut

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2
(867) 669-4730
www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/nature/ecb/index.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

NOTE
Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2005–2006 federal permits.

OPEN SEASONS IN NUNAVUT

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout Nunavut	September 1 to December 10(a)

(a) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NUNAVUT

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Coots RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25(c)(g)	8(c)(g)	15(b)(e)	5(a)(b)(e)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit(d)(h)	16(d)(h)	No limit(b)(f)	10(a)(b)(f)	No limit	No limit	20

(a) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.
(b) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily, and not more than 10 may be possessed.
(c) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than two American Black Ducks.
(d) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than four American Black Ducks.
(e) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit is 20 Snow Geese, five Canada Geese, and five other geese.
(f) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit is 60 Snow Geese, 10 Canada Geese, and 10 other geese.
(g) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than four American Black Ducks and two Blue-winged Teal.
(h) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than eight American Black Ducks and four Blue-winged Teal.

NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one-half hour before sunrise or later than one-half hour after sunset, except north of the 60th parallel, where no person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service / Service canadien de la faune

Northwest Territories

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2
(867) 669-4730
www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/nature/ecb/index.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

OPEN SEASONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout the Northwest Territories	September 1 to December 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Coots RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25	8	15	5(a)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit	16	No limit	10(a)	No limit	No limit	20

(a) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.

NOTE
No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Canadian Wildlife Service
91782 Alaska Highway
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5B7
(867) 667-4597
www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/EN/Wildlife/about/index.shtml

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

Hunting Areas

Northern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying north of latitude 66°

Southern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying south of latitude 66°

OPEN SEASONS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Area	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Northern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31
Southern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	5(b)	2	0(c)	10
Possession	24(a)	15(b)	4	0(c)	30(d)

(a) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 17 additional ducks may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(b) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 10 additional geese may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(c) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 25 rails and coots may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(d) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory there is no possession limit.

NOTE
No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Appendix D. Sales of Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits by Province and Territory.

Season	NF	PE	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	NT/NU	YT	NU	Canada[1]
1966	13,269	3,271	7,220	8,535	35,868	144,063	37,784	44,744	52,911	32,394				380,059
1967	14,863	3,094	7,883	7,739	32,491	146,493	35,620	44,651	55,892	33,195				383,032
1968	17,645	3,649	9,022	9,558	37,110	139,182	38,712	43,596	53,623	33,301				385,553
1969	19,089	3,794	8,848	10,110	39,477	134,037	41,611	45,347	53,602	32,764				389,325
1970	21,347	3,962	9,926	10,293	46,009	135,231	39,230	47,722	59,986	31,350				405,650
1971	23,460	4,513	11,381	11,146	50,276	133,563	40,960	49,448	62,902	30,225				418,237
1972	23,682	4,492	12,158	11,336	53,082	131,427	41,133	50,004	63,309	31,032				421,677
1973	27,919	4,972	15,071	12,869	57,247	141,277	41,711	51,307	67,012	33,456				452,841
1974	25,127	5,038	13,791	11,916	58,345	136,469	37,167	51,504	66,127	27,764	591	323		434,162
1975	30,115	4,963	13,990	12,930	63,768	148,670	42,846	57,723	69,191	25,918	721	485		471,320
1976	29,621	5,756	13,326	13,743	66,453	143,816	46,681	61,669	75,739	26,561	893	513		484,771
1977	36,188	6,158	15,744	14,209	72,828	156,895	46,438	60,029	82,175	28,357	902	607		520,530
1978	37,297	6,396	16,297	15,249	74,745	159,698	50,169	57,958	77,117	28,561	821	638		524,946
1979	35,490	5,888	14,098	13,409	73,209	150,224	49,344	56,174	77,021	28,263	755	584		504,459
1980	31,362	5,802	14,257	12,471	76,133	147,952	48,340	54,081	79,318	27,943	732	525		498,916
1981	31,401	5,611	14,130	12,287	75,178	141,677	46,528	42,856	66,163	28,243	764	514		465,352
1982	31,215	5,461	13,726	12,759	72,850	144,436	45,273	47,236	64,968	26,522	800	572		465,820
1983	30,977	5,898	13,468	12,758	67,700	139,569	40,443	45,383	61,742	24,170	750	474		443,332
1984	31,309	5,525	12,896	11,486	65,308	140,521	35,238	37,720	51,717	21,892	850	496		414,958
1985	25,652	5,171	10,749	10,354	60,823	130,089	31,753	36,445	44,880	18,753	713	361		375,743
1986	25,498	5,300	11,047	11,083	59,685	131,930	33,570	37,692	45,042	17,924	692	358		379,821
1987	21,080	4,959	10,299	9,897	55,124	122,472	30,207	29,930	40,122	16,259	523	391		341,263
1988	23,655	4,906	10,264	10,646	57,206	117,310	25,108	23,258	34,513	15,595	496	367		323,324
1989	24,707	4,838	10,092	9,971	54,605	114,292	23,898	22,916	34,559	14,694	420	308		315,300
1990	24,831	4,625	10,115	9,974	54,700	115,130	22,641	22,964	32,212	13,851	431	240		311,714
1991	20,738	4,209	10,104	9,997	53,739	108,802	22,122	22,414	29,399	13,601	352	300		295,777
1992	20,310	3,753	9,192	9,337	49,262	103,395	20,048	20,620	28,056	12,429	348	256		277,006
1993	20,585	3,609	8,968	9,008	47,675	95,824	19,199	19,771	26,787	11,818	327	287		263,878
1994	20,399	3,380	9,314	9,468	46,537	92,344	18,838	20,254	26,211	11,037	320	294		258,396
1995	20,231	3,479	9,176	8,674	38,955	83,720	19,630	20,554	25,747	9,855	342	318		240,681
1996	16,312	3,303	8,652	8,536	36,004	80,194	19,702	20,475	27,299	10,069	318	306		231,170
1997	14,289	3,051	7,731	7,546	31,435	72,521	18,918	20,109	26,847	10,185	278	268		213,178
1998	13,101	2,946	7,681	7,095	30,113	70,407	18,445	21,822	22,238	9,816	286	231		204,181
1999	13,111	2,671	7,410	6,821	30,124	67,077	17,433	21,685	21,415	9,314	292	231		197,584
2000	12,217	2,805	7,072	6,399	30,271	63,672	15,810	21,908	21,792	9,007	267	224	0	191,444
2001	16,998	2,416	6,645	5,975	29,138	58,458	15,038	18,387	19,527	8,185	223	251	20	181,261
2002	16,056	2,341	6,316	5,942	28,702	56,645	14,832	16,958	17,814	7,464	244	217	24	173,555
2003	15,626	2,316	5,926	6,065	29,376	56,911	15,124	18,155	18,372	6,509	234	159	12	174,794
2004	14,642	2,208	5,413	5,400	28,818	55,066	14,071	19,796	18,661	5,713	180	165		170,133

[1] *Total permit sales from 1967 to 1972 include some sales where the province of sale was not recorded.*
Data source: M. Gendron and B. Collins (CWS).